

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: WAVERLY LIGHT AND POWER	DOCKET NO. WRU-00-7-766
---------------------------------------	-------------------------

ORDER GRANTING WAIVER

(Issued February 24, 2000)

On January 24, 2000, Waverly Light and Power (Waverly) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a request for waiver of the energy efficiency plan filing requirements of Iowa Code § 476.1B (1999) and 199 IAC 36.3. This rule requires nonrate-regulated utilities to file biennial energy efficiency plans. Waverly is a nonrate-regulated municipal utility. The Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice filed a response on February 1, 2000, stating it had no objection to the waiver request.

Iowa Code § 476.1B(2) (1999) allows the Board to waive the energy efficiency plan filing requirements for municipal utilities which "demonstrate superior results with existing energy efficiency programs." The Board granted Waverly's request for waiver of the biennial filings in 1996 and 1998 because Waverly presented evidence of a long-term continuing commitment to the pursuit of energy efficiency opportunities. The Board noted Waverly's integrated resource plan (IRP) used methods comparable to those used by rate-regulated utilities, including econometric forecasts and extensive benefit/cost testing. Waverly's IRP indicated 2.5 percent of

revenues would be spent on energy efficiency over the next ten years. Waverly Light and Power, "Order Granting Waiver," Docket No. WRU-96-5-766 (March 26, 1996).

In support of its current waiver request, Waverly said it continues to use an IRP planning procedure. Waverly provided tables showing its renewable energy commitment is scheduled to increase from approximately 2,000,000 kWh in 1998 to 6,000,000 kWh in 2000 because of the addition of two large wind generators. Waverly provides support evidence showing that it has reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 16 percent from 1989 to 1998 through use of renewable energy, energy efficiency, and distribution system upgrades. Waverly adds that its continuing commitment to energy efficiency is shown by its adoption of new programs providing for rebates for commercial HVAC and residential clothes washers and dryers.

Waverly's energy savings through the use of energy efficiency and renewables continues to compare favorably to results attained by investor-owned utilities with mandated plans. The information filed by Waverly supports its claim that it continues to produce "superior" results with its energy efficiency plan and the Board will grant the waiver. However, the waiver applies to the year 2000 biennial filing only. Waverly will be required to file an energy efficiency plan or request for waiver at the time its next filing is due.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The request for waiver filed by Waverly Light and Power on January 24, 2000,
is granted.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary, Deputy

/s/ Diane Munns

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 24th day of February, 2000.